

# 2015 Legislative Victories for Senator Chris Murphy

Over the course of 2015, I voted for hundreds of bills, amendments, resolutions, and nominations in the Senate. I stand by all of those votes, but as we begin the new year, I thought it would be useful for you to know the laws and legislative provisions I actually authored that were passed into law last year. I've figured out that the best way to get your ideas passed into law is to work hard to include them in major, must-pass pieces of legislation that are moving through the legislative process. So here's a list of legislation that I authored that was passed into law in 2015.



## MURPHY LEGISLATION SIGNED INTO LAW

### Buy American transparency provision included in the National Defense Authorization Act

Amendment authored by Murphy increasing transparency for Buy American requirements for the Department of Defense was included as part of the NDAA and signed into law

### Supportive School Climate Act of 2015

Murphy's bill to address school discipline and the school-to-prison-pipeline was included as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Authorization Act (ESEA) reauthorization

### Every Child Counts Act of 2015

Murphy's bill to ensure students with disabilities receive the support and resources they need to succeed was included in ESEA reauthorization

### Promise Neighborhoods Authorization Act of 2015

Murphy's bill authorizing the Promise Neighborhoods program, which seeks to create opportunity for children in low-income neighborhoods, was enacted into law as part of ESEA reauthorization

### Murphy Amendment to No Child Left Behind Reform

The "Murphy amendment" to the NCLB reform act required states to identify and support underperforming schools and protect the needs of vulnerable and underserved learners. A version of the original amendment was included in the final bill.

### Better Options for Kids Act of 2015

Murphy juvenile justice measure to establish guidelines regarding the role of school resource officers was included in omnibus appropriations bill

### Milford Labs aquaculture research provision

Provisions authored by Murphy and included in the omnibus authorizes NOAA to prioritize aquaculture research at Milford Labs and provides additional funding

### Resolution condemning acts of terrorism

Murphy resolution condemning the terrorist attacks in Paris and expressing solidarity with the people of France was passed unanimously by the Senate

### Protecting kids from overheated cars

Following Murphy's advocacy, the Highway Bill (FAST Act) contains language directing a study of technological solutions to protect children from the dangers of hot cars

### Connecticut dairy farmers

The FAST Act includes language championed by Murphy, together with Reps Courtney and Esty, allowing states to raise weight limits for raw milk dairy trucks. Conflicting government restrictions were forcing farmers to offload portions of their milk supply, hurting their bottom line and putting consumers' health at risk

## OTHER IMPORTANT WINS

### Hartford Promise Zone designation

As a result of Murphy's advocacy, Hartford obtained one of only 8 Promise Zone designations in the country, receiving preference for federal grants and other supports to revitalize the community, create jobs, reduce crime, and expand educational opportunity

### Connecticut defense manufacturing

Murphy successfully advocated for \$1.5 billion in additional appropriations for Connecticut's defense industry and manufacturing, including funding for submarine and aerospace manufacturing

### USS Oklahoma disinterment and identifications of unknown

Murphy successfully convinced the Pentagon to reverse course and return to families the remains of sailors from the USS Oklahoma who were killed at Pearl Harbor

### Connecticut manufacturing innovation

Successfully advocated for \$25 million in new funding for the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation, which awarded Connecticut the Flexible Hybrid Electronics Manufacturing Innovation Institute (FHE MII) following Senator Murphy's advocacy

### Northeast Corridor rail improvement capital fund

Helped establish and provide \$19 million for a new Northeast Corridor capital fund, which can only be used to fund rail improvement projects in the Northeast Corridor